



Sustainability Advisory Committee

**MINUTES
SAC COMMITTEE
February 27, 2014
CITY HALL A/B CONFERENCE ROOM**

ROLL CALL:

Diane Meyer, Chair
Stan Braude
Richard Marx
Pamela Fournier
Jackie Coleman
Andrea Maddox-Dallas, Aldermanic Representative

ABSENT:

Alex Bornstein
Joe Miller
Brad Bernstein
Gina Nakis
Joanne Boulton, Aldermanic Representative

CITY STAFF:

Dale Houdeshell, Director of Public Works
Daneen Schlereth, Recording Secretary

The minutes of the October 24, 2013 meeting were approved with one minor grammatical error change on page 2 – banding to banning.

World Wildlife Earth Hourly Challenge Wrap Up

Stan asked the committee since he wasn't here at the last meeting what was the World Wildlife Earth Hourly Challenge. Daneen informed Stan and the rest of the committee with an update from John Wulf regarding the challenge. She informed the committee it was a website that gave several suggestions on different things that can be done to save the Earth. However with the city losing its Director and then Chris our Civil Engineer it was pushed to the waste side. Diane said she has been to the website and the City has already done several ideas that are suggested.

Dale informed the committee the Board of Alderman approved a resolution for the city to participate in the Earth Hour Challenge which is scheduled for some time in the spring. Andre confirmed it was approved for this year just not sure of the exact date. Some members asked what exactly the Earth Hour Challenge is. Andre informed the committee, it basically is an effort for everyone to turn their lights off between 830pm and 930pm that evening. Andre said we have done it in the past and it's been successful. The city will send out an email blast and put in on the website to get the information out. Diane informed the committee that Earth Day is scheduled for Saturday, March 29, 2014. Stan asked if we should get a hold of Brad to get the word out to the kids and of course they would take that information home. Andrea suggested the mayor's youth advisory council. Stan said he would email Brad with the information for the kids.

Electronic Recycling Event

Daneen informed the committee the Electronic Recycling Event was being held on Friday, March 21, and Saturday, March 22, 2014. It is being staged in the main parking lot of Shaw Park same place as last year. However, this year the event is being sponsored and ran by Republic Services, the city's trash haulers. It was asked why the city changed, Daneen informed the committee; the city added the event in its yearly contract with Republic instead of contracting out with WITS. The WITS Company does want to pair up with Republic to possibly get the old computers, because they clear the computers and refurbish them to give to less fortunate families. The city has put WITS in contact with Tony Lamantia from Republic to see if that idea could be accomplished. Diane asked what Republic does with the electronics; Daneen informed her they recycle all of the parts and components.

New Business

Diane waited for a few more members to arrive and then introduced Dale to the committee and asked him to give the committee a brief history of his background.

Dale informed the committee he wasn't new to the area, he worked several years in Maryland Heights and in St. Peters before he moved to Manhattan, Kansas as their Public Works Director for the last 7 years. Dale said one of the big reasons he wanted to come back to the area was that most of his family is here, he has been here for about 3-4 weeks. Dale said sustainability has been at the forefront of several municipalities for quite some time and being a part of the APWA, they too have been very active promoting sustainability issues. Dale said he was excited to see that the City is this far with sustainability issues.

Diane asked Dale if Manhattan promoted sustainability. Dale said they did not. Diane said she was surprised being a college town. Dale did say they did manage sustainability on projects and certain levels, but did not on solid waste stream management level.

Diane asked if anyone had any other new business they wanted to discuss.

Pam brought up the idea of having a shredding event. She said she was familiar with several places that used to offer it for free, but now Kinkos charges 79 cents a pound. Pam said she has even seen where they have trucks in parking lots where you can pull up and they take your stuff for free. Daneen informed the committee the Center of Clayton held one once before, but wasn't sure if another one was scheduled. Dale said that sometimes the credit unions offer it for free.

Diane asked if it's something we can ask the Board of Alderman to do since we have such a small budget. Pam said usually a company will sponsor it. Daneen informed the committee the city discussed it with Republic when the contract was renewed. The city went with 2 recycling events instead of having a shredding event.

Stan asked how much does an event like this cost. If the cost is minimal couldn't we ask Bank of America or Carrolton to help sponsor since they traditional offer that. Diane asked Andre if we could send a letter to the mayor requesting such event. Andre said absolutely.

Andre said the Board of Alderman hold a general discussion session every month, on the third Friday from 4pm to 5pm. Andrea asked if someone would be interested in attending. She suggested Diane should come to the meeting to discuss where we want to see the sustainability committee go. It is a public forum anyone is welcome to come.

Pam asked if the mayor had a vision for the Sustainability Committee. Diane said she emailed both Andrea and Joanne and asked if they had some guidance. If you look at the city in the last 10 years the city has accomplished a ton compared to other cities and even when you look at the Earth Group's website and what they recommend, Clayton has done it. The city is limited and would like to know where they feel we should be going. Diane said if that's part of the discussion on that Friday, it would be worthwhile for one or a few of us to attend.

Diane said she was looking on the website and came across the - To Sustain the Quality of life in Clayton. If you noticed several cities have gone beyond the recycling, led lights, solar panels, and composting. It has become more multi facet, that if we put our heads together we could be a part of that sustainability. Such as good roads, bike lanes, pocket parks with vegetable gardens, and go for a new approach to sustainability. The committee continued with a general discussion and felt that we should attend the next Friday meeting and bring back information to the next meeting.

A general discussion commenced about the streets in Clayton, especially Wydown. Dale informed the committee there is some water line work scheduled to be done first and then the street is scheduled for resurfacing. The committee continued on with a general conversation about the width of some of the bike lanes on Wydown and as usual no one abiding by the lanes. Richard mentioned the bike lane around Wydown and Hillvale, that it is as wide as the driving lane.

Pam asked about an interior recycling container, she said she had mentioned it several meetings ago. She had a picture of a rectangular shaped container. Pam said she thought it would be a great idea for residents to have smaller containers in their homes to make it easier to recycle. Daneen informed the committee she would get with Tony from Republic and find out where the residents can purchase them. Stan suggested if they aren't very expensive maybe we should buy several of them and try to sell them to the residents.

Dale informed the committee he found a Shred Day scheduled for April 17th at the St. Louis Galleria. Stan suggested maybe would could get that information out to our residents somehow. It was suggested maybe Facebook or on Twitter.

Stan asked about the plastic bag update. Diane informed Stan the committee decided we wanted the students to contact Straubs and Walgreens and see if they would consider putting a collection box in the front of the stores like Schnucks has. Joe was supposed to contact the teacher and inform the students what the committee wanted them to do. Andrea said the city will not promote the banning of the use of the bags but we can certainly suggest other options.

The meeting adjourned at 6:00pm.

Next meeting scheduled for **Thursday, April 24, 2014**

cc: June Waters, City Clerk